



Climate change: implications for food safety

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Abstract:

The paper aims to identify potential impacts of anticipated changes in climate on food safety and their control at all stages of the food chain. The purpose is to raise awareness of the issue and to facilitate international cooperation in better understanding the changing food safety situation and in developing and implementing strategies to address them. While this paper takes a broad look at a number of food safety issues and considers possible implications of climate change – it does not provide exhaustive treatment of the topic. The food safety issues covered include: agents of food-borne disease with specific consideration of zoonotic diseases, mycotoxin contamination, biotoxins in fishery products and environmental contaminants with significance to the food chain. The paper also highlights the need for adequate attention to food safety in ensuring preparedness for effective management of emergency situations arising from extreme weather events. There is much uncertainty about possible food safety implications of climate change. This paper discusses some expected effects that are supported by data; it also considers other issues that are largely speculative.

Source: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/i0195e/i0195e00.htm>

Resource Description

Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Public

Early Warning System: ☒

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure : ☒

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weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Meteorological Factors, Precipitation, Sea Level Rise, Temperature, Other Exposure, Other Exposure

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones

Food/Water Quality: Biotoxin/Algal Bloom, Biotoxin/Algal Bloom, Biotoxin/Algal Bloom, Chemical, Chemical, Chemical, Pathogen, Pathogen, Pathogen, Other Water Quality Issue

Water Quality (other): Ocean acidity; Eutrophication; Sea surface temperature; Dissolved nitrogen; Dissolved phosphorus

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Fisheries, Food Access/Distribution, Livestock Productivity, Nutritional Quality

Temperature: Fluctuations

Other Exposure: desertification

Geographic Feature: ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Impact: ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Morbidity/Mortality, Neurological Effect

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease, Zoonotic Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: Campylobacteriosis, Cholera, Cryptosporidiosis, E. coli, Fascioliasis, General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Giardiasis, Leptospirosis, Listeriosis, Rotavirus, Salmonellosis, Shigellosis, Vibrios, Other Diarrheal Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease (other): Tapeworm

Vectorborne Disease: Mosquito-borne Disease, Tick-borne Disease

Mosquito-borne Disease: Rift Valley Fever, West Nile Virus

Tick-borne Disease: General Tick-borne Disease

Zoonotic Disease: General Zoonotic Disease, Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome, Hendra Virus, Nipah Virus, Other Zoonotic Disease

Zoonotic Disease (other): Yersinia; Anaerobic spore-forming bacteria; Toxoplasma gondii

Medical Community Engagement: ☒

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resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Model/Methodology:

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

Methodology

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content